

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 9, 1963

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A review of the television taped interview taken with FERNANDO PENABAZ by WESH TV Orlando, Florida, on December 5, 1963 reflected the following information:

PENABAZ started his statement with a review of OSWALD's activities on behalf of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee in New Orleans, La., and stated that the announcements by the FBI to the effect that OSWALD was a "Loner" were subject to interpretation as OSWALD had been an active member of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee.

One week before the assassination of the President a cartoon appeared in "REVOLUCION", Official propaganda organ for the Castro regime, which depicted, in one block, the damage which Hurricane "FLORA" had wrought in Cuba with UNCLE SAM standing by laughing, and in another block, a coffin bearing the name JOHN F. KENNEDY with CASTRO standing by, also laughing and the caption read "He who laughs last laughs best". In addition, two days before the assassination, there were intense troop movements in Cuba on the Northern Coast.

Leading members of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee expressed intense dislike for the late President and in an interview a member of this committee, CARLTON BEAL stated that JOHN F. KENNEDY needed to be eliminated. Also, members of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee were formerly founders of the Monroe Committee formed to protect ROBERT FRANKLIN WILLIAMS, a man wanted by the FBI as reported in the FBI Fiscal report of 1961.

PENABAZ went on to state that he had obtained facts from reports of public hearings of the "DIES" Committee of August 17, 1938 that a JACK RUBENSTEIN had been one of the founders of Revolutionary Youth, a Marxist Organization in 1930 and also in Volume I of these hearings he had been one of the leaders in 1929 of the Lovestone phonetic - Gitlow phonetic group of the Communist Party, USA (CPUSA). It was reported further in hearings on December 2, 1939 that a JACK RUBENSTEIN attended a CPUSA caucus in 1929.

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On 12/6/63 at Orlando, Florida File #
by SA RICHARD K. HARPER:db Date dictated 12/6/63

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Dragging in the irrelevant, Robert Williams, is another characteristic of radical-right method and practice, racism. Williams was connected with nothing. Former Congressman Martin Dies became associated with the John Birch Society. Jack Ruby was neither a founder nor a member of "Revolutionary Youth" nor any other Marxist group.

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Another reference to JACK RUBENSTEIN was in the 80th Congress House Report in which a cable, made public, referred to COMRADE JACK RUBENSTEIN a member of the Bureau of the National Executive Committee of the Young Communist League.

PENABAZ ended his interview by stating that it only needed to be verified that the JACK RUBENSTEIN referred to in these hearings and reports was identical with the man who killed OSWALD and it would tend to prove a similarity to the typical communist plot designed to handle a situation gone awry. PENABAZ also indicated that if OSWALD would have gotten away with the assassination it would have been blamed on right-wing fanatics.

APPENDIX

FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA COMMITTEE

The April 6, 1960, edition of "The New York Times" newspaper contained a full-page advertisement captioned "What Is Really Happening In Cuba," placed by the Fair Play for Cuba Committee (FPCC). This advertisement announced the formation of the FPCC in New York City and declared the FPCC intended to promulgate "the truth about revolutionary Cuba" to neutralize the distorted American press.

"The New York Times" edition of January 11, 1961, reported that at a hearing conducted before the United States Senate Internal Security Subcommittee on January 10, 1961, Dr. Charles A. Santos-Buch identified himself and Robert Taber as organizers of the FPCC. He also testified he and Taber obtained funds from the Cuban Government which were applied toward the cost of the aforementioned advertisement.

On May 16, 1963, a source advised that during the first two years of the FPCC's existence there was a struggle between Communist Party (CP) and Socialist Workers Party (SWP) elements to exert their power within the FPCC and thereby influence FPCC policy. However, during the past year this source observed there has been a successful effort by FPCC leadership to minimize the role of these and other organizations in the FPCC so that today their influence is negligible.

On May 20, 1963, a second source advised that the National Headquarters of the FPCC is located in Room 329 at 799 Broadway, New York City. According to this source, the position of National Office Director was created in the Fall of 1962 and was filled by Vincent "Ted" Lee, who now formulates FPCC policy. This source observed Lee has followed a course of entertaining and accepting the cooperation of many other organizations including the CP and the SWP when he has felt it would be to his personal benefit as well as the FPCC's. However, Lee has indicated to this source he has no intention of permitting FPCC policy to be determined by any other organization. Lee feels the FPCC should advocate resumption of diplomatic relations between Cuba and the United States and support the right of Cubans to manage their revolution without interference from other nations, but not support the Cuban revolution per se.

The CP and the SWP have been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.